

a large extent engaged in agricultural pursuits, and will compare favorably with the rural population of the country generally, both socially and otherwise.

There are five churches in the township, one of which was first organized and the building erected by the father of Chief-Justice Ruffin and the father of Gov. Morehead, assisted by others, both of whom were members of that church. A fair per cent. of the population of the township is attached to some branch of the Church.

The township has some as good public school-houses as are to be found, and others are being built, which indicates an increasing interest in the cause of education, as good schools are rarely found in poor houses.

The voting population of the township is about seven hundred, with a Democratic majority of less than one hundred.

There is an increased interest being taken in stock-raising, which is manifested by the introduction of improved breeds of horses, cattle, hogs, &c.

The township has been either the birth-place, or the place of rearing of some of the most eminent men of the State, both in Church and State,—among whom could be named Rev. N. F. Reid, Chief-Justice Ruffin, Gov. Morehead, and others.

The Piedmont Air-Line Railway runs through the township for about eight miles, and affords ample means of transportation and travel for the citizens of the whole township.

With good government, which we have and are likely to continue to have, a better system of public schools than ever before, with an increased interest in education: as fine water as can be found, a climate unsurpassed for health, we have “a land beautiful for situation,” and one that is good to migrate to.

Sketch of Simpsonville Township.

BY W. N. MEBANE.

Simpsonville is one of the four southern townships of Rockingham county, and is bounded south by Guilford line, with adjoining